Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-21 (canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) ~~An active~~ Active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles comprising:

Φ1 an active substance, with the exception of plant powders having a deodorizing effect, in a quantity in the range from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles wherein the active substance is selected from a care substance or a wound-treating substance, or a care substance and a wound-treating substance wherein the active substance does not have a deodorizing effect; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity in the range from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles,

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least 30 mol. %; and

~~wherein the active substance is homogeneously distributed over the absorber matrix~~ wherein the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles have been obtained by a process wherein the active substance is added to the acrylic acid monomers before the start of the polymerization reaction, so that the active substance is incorporated into the water-absorbing polymer during the polymerization reaction. .

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22, wherein the care substance comprises a skin care substance capable of any one selected from [[of]] cleaning the skin, perfuming the skin, changing an appearance of the skin, protecting the skin, maintaining the skin in a good condition, or any combination of any of the preceding.

25. (Previously Presented) The active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22, wherein the active substance comprises a functional group including any one of a double bond, an OH group, an NH group, a COOH group, a salt of at least one of these groups, or any combination of any of the preceding.

26. (Currently Amended) The active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22, wherein the active substance comprises at least one wound-treating substance or a mixture of at least two wound-treating substances capable of disinfecting a wound area by any one selected from the following: [[of]] promoting homeostasis of a wound environment, stimulating cell growth in the wound area, stimulating a secretion of one or more proteins in the wound area, stimulating a secretion of proteoglucanes in the wound area, stimulating a secretion of messenger substances by the skin cells in the wound area, or any combination of any of the preceding.

27. (Currently Amended) The active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22 [[23]], wherein the active substance comprises any one of ~~selected from~~ the following[[,]]: an allantonin, a recutita, an arnica, a biotin, a coenzyme Q10, a dexpanthenol, a honey or honey extract, an amino acid, a niacinamide, a vitamin C or its esters, a vitamin E or its esters, or any combination of any of the preceding.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22, wherein the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles include a residual monomer content of the monomer on which the water-absorbing polymer particles are based of under 500 ppm.

30. (Previously Presented) The active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22, wherein an active substance availability comprise at least about 40 wt.% according to the Extraction Test described herein.

31. (Currently Amended) A water-absorbing composition comprising:

Γ1 a polycondensate matrix based on at least one polycondensate monomer with at least one polycondensate group; and

Γ2 a particulate water-absorbing polymer comprising an active substance including at least one functional group that can react with at least one polycondensate group to form a covalent link; or

a particulate water-absorbing polymer comprising:

Φ1 an active substance in a quantity in the range from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles wherein the active substance does not have a deodorizing effect; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity in the range from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles,

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least about 30 mol. %,

wherein the particulate water-absorbing polymer is at least partially surrounded by the polycondensate matrix;

wherein at least the particulate water-absorbing polymer comprises the active substance;

wherein the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles have been obtained by a process wherein the active substance is added to the acrylic acid monomers before the start of the polymerization reaction, so that the active substance is incorporated into the water-absorbing polymer during the polymerization reaction;

wherein the water-absorbing composition has an active substance availability of at least about 10 wt.% according to the Extraction Test described herein; and

wherein the water-absorbing composition is obtainable by a process wherein the particulate water-absorbing polymer that comprises the active substance is brought into contact with the polycondensate monomer before the completion of the polycondensate formation.

32. (Previously Presented) The water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31, wherein the active substance comprises any one selected from of a care substance, a wound-treating substance, a salt of a care substance, a salt of a wound-treating substance, or any combination of any of the preceding.

33. (Previously Presented) The water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31, wherein the water-absorbing polymer has at least one of the following properties:

A1) a particle size distribution, whereby at least 80 wt.% of the particles have a particle size in a range from about 20 μm to about 900 μm according to ERT 420.1-99;

A2) a Centrifuge Retention Capacity (CRC) of at least about 10 g/g, preferably at least about 20 g/g according to ERT 441.1-99;

A3) an Absorption Against Pressure (AAP) at about 0.7 psi of at least 4 g/g according to ERT 442.1-99;

A4) a water soluble polymer content after about 16 hours extraction of less than 25 wt.%, based on the total weight of the water-absorbing polymer, according to ERT 470.1-99; or

A5) a residual moisture of at most 15 wt.%, based on the total weight of the water-absorbing polymer, according to ERT 430.1-99.

34. (Previously Presented) The water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31, wherein the water-absorbing polymer comprises:

(α1) from about 0.1 to about 99.999 wt.% polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated, acidic group-containing monomers or salts thereof or polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising a protonated or quaternated nitrogen, or mixtures thereof,

(α2) from 0 to about 70 wt.% polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated monomers copolymerizable with (α1),

(α3) from about 0.001 to about 10 wt.% of one or more crosslinkers,

(α4) from 0 to about 30 wt.% water soluble polymers, and

(α5) from 0 to about 20 wt.% of one or more auxiliaries,

wherein the sum of the weight quantities (α1) to (α5) amounts to about 100 wt.%.

35. (Previously Presented) The water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31, wherein the polycondensate matrix comprises at least 10 wt.%, based on the polycondensate matrix, a polyurethane.

36. (Previously Presented) The water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31, wherein the polycondensate matrix comprises a foam.

37. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A composite comprising a water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31.

38. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The composite according to Claim 37, wherein the composite comprises at least one of the following properties:

V1) a viscose elasticity [tanδ (ω = 0.3 rad/s)] in the range from about 0.1 to about 10;

V2) a liquid absorption of at least 5 g/100 cm^2;

V3) a water vapor permeability of at least 100 g/(m^2x24h); or

V4) an O_2 permeability of at least 100 cm^3/(m^2x24h).

39. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 37, further comprising a film.

40. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 38, further comprising a film.

41. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 39, wherein the film has a water vapor permeability in the range from about 100 to about 2000 g/(m^2x24h).

42. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 40, wherein the film has a water vapor permeability in the range from about 100 to about 2000 g/(m^2x24h).

43. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 39, wherein the composition is directly adjacent to a film.

44. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 40, wherein the composition is directly adjacent to a film.

45. (Previously Presented) A hygiene article comprising an active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles according to Claim 22.

46. (Previously Presented) A hygiene article comprising a water-absorbing composition according to Claim 31.

47. (Previously Presented) A hygiene article comprising a composite according to Claim 37.

Claims 48-49 (Canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) A water absorbent composition obtainable by a process for producing a water-absorbing composition wherein an active substance-doped water absorbing polymer particle comprising:

Φ1 an active substance in a quantity of from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles wherein the active substance does not have a deodorizing effect; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity of from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles,

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least 30 mol. %, and

wherein the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles have been obtained by a process wherein the active substance is added to the acrylic acid monomers before the start of the polymerization reaction, so that the active substance is incorporated into the water-absorbing polymer during the polymerization reaction,

is contacted with polycondensate monomer before the end of the polycondensate matrix formation.

51. (Previously Presented) A water absorbent composition according to Claim 50, wherein the water-absorbing polymer has at least one of the following properties:

A1) a particle size distribution, whereby at least 80 wt.% of the particles have a particle size in a range from about 20 μm to about 900 μm according to ERT 420.1-99;

A2) a Centrifuge Retention Capacity (CRC) of at least 10 g/g according to ERT 441.1-99;

A3) an Absorption Against Pressure (AAP) at about 0.7 psi of at least 4 g/g according to ERT 442.1-99;

A4) a water soluble polymer content after about 16 hours extraction of less than 25 wt.%, based on the total weight of the water-absorbing polymer, according to ERT 470.1-99; or

A5) a residual moisture of at most about 15 wt.%, based on the total weight of the water-absorbing polymer, according to ERT 430.1-99.

52. (Previously Presented) A water absorbent composition according to Claim 50, wherein the water-absorbing polymer comprises:

(α1) from about 0.1 to about 99.999 wt.% polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated, acidic group-containing monomers or salts thereof or polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising a protonated or quaternated nitrogen, or mixtures thereof,

(α2) from 0 to about 70 wt.% polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated monomers copolymerizable with (α1),

(α3) from about 0.001 to about 10 wt.% of one or more crosslinkers,

(α4) from 0 to about 30 wt.% water soluble polymers, and

(α5) from 0 to about 20 wt.% of one or more auxiliaries,

wherein the sum of the weight quantities (α1) to (α5) amounts to about 100 wt.%.

53. (Previously Presented) The water absorbent composition according to Claim 50, wherein the polycondensate matrix comprises at least 10 wt.%, based on the polycondensate matrix, of a polyurethane.

54. (Previously Presented) The water absorbent composition according to Claim 50, wherein the polycondensate matrix comprises a foam.

55. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A composite comprising a water absorbent composition according to Claim 50.

56. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 55, with at least one of the following properties:

V1) a viscose elasticity [tanδ (ω = 0.3 rad/s)] in the range from about 0.1 to about 10;

V2) a liquid absorption of at least 5 g/100 cm^2;

V3) a water vapor permeability of at least 100 g/(m^2x24h); or

V4) an O_2 permeability of at least 100 cm^3/(m^2x24h).

57. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The composite according to Claim 55, further comprising a film.

58. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 57, wherein the film has a water vapor permeability in the range from about 100 to about 2000 g/(m^2x24h).

59. (Previously Presented) The composite according to Claim 57, wherein a water absorbent composition is directly adjacent to the film.

60. (Previously Presented) A hygiene article comprising a water absorbent composition according to Claim 50.

61. (Previously Presented) A hygiene article comprising a composite according to Claim 55.

Claims 62-68 (Canceled)

69. (Currently Amended) A wound treatment article selected from:

(a) [[an]] active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles comprising:

Φ1 an active substance in a quantity in the range from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles wherein the active substance does not have a deodorizing effect; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity in the range from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles, wherein the active substance is selected from a care substance or a wound-treating substance, or a care substance and a wound-treating substance; and

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least about 30 mol. % and ~~wherein the active substance is homogeneously distributed over the absorber matrix~~ wherein the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles have been obtained by a process wherein the active substance is added to the acrylic acid monomers before the start of the polymerization reaction, so that the active substance is incorporated into the water-absorbing polymer during the polymerization reaction;

(b) a water-absorbing composition comprising:

Γ1 a polycondensate matrix based on at least one polycondensate monomer with at least one polycondensate group; and

Γ2 a particulate water-absorbing polymer comprising an active substance including at least one functional group that can react with at least one polycondensate group to form a covalent link wherein the active substance does not have a deodorizing effect; or

a particulate water-absorbing polymer comprising:

Φ1 an active substance in a quantity in the range from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles wherein the active substance does not have a deodorizing effect; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity in the range from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles,

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least 30 mol. %,

wherein the particulate water-absorbing polymer is at least partially surrounded by the polycondensate matrix;

wherein at least the particulate water-absorbing polymer comprises the active substance; [[and]]

wherein the active substance-doped water-absorbing polymer particles have been obtained by a process wherein the active substance is added to the acrylic acid monomers before the start of the polymerization reaction, so that the active substance is incorporated into the water-absorbing polymer during the polymerization reaction

wherein the water-absorbing composition has an active substance availability of at least 10 wt.% according to the Extraction Test described herein, and

wherein the water-absorbing composition is obtainable by a process wherein the particulate water-absorbing polymer that comprises the active substance is brought into contact with the polycondensate monomer before the completion of the polycondensate formation;

(c) a composite comprising a water-absorbing composition according to (b); or

(d) at least two thereof.

70. (New) Water-absorbing polymer particles comprising:

Φ1 dexpanthenol in a quantity in the range from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, based on the water-absorbing polymer particles; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity in the range from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the water-absorbing polymer particles,

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least 30 mol. %.

71. (New) Water-absorbing polymer particles comprising:

Φ1 an active substance in a quantity in the range from about 0.001 to about 30 wt.%, selected from an allantonin, a recutita, an arnica, a biotin, a coenzyme Q10, a dexpanthenol, a honey or honey extract, an amino acid, a niacinamide, a vitamin C or its esters, a vitamin E or its esters, or any combination of any of the preceding; and

Φ 2 an absorber matrix in a quantity in the range from about 70 to about 99.999 wt.%, based on the water-absorbing polymer particles,

wherein the absorber matrix comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid to at least about 90 wt.%, based on the absorber matrix; and

wherein the cross-linked polyacrylic acid comprises, to at least 90 wt.%, based on the cross-linked polyacrylic acid, an acrylic acid that is partially neutralized to at least 30 mol. % wherein the water-absorbing polymer particles have a residual monomer content of less than about 500ppm.